

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings make changes to Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 7-9. These sheets replace the corresponding original sheets with Figs. 1-4 and 7-9.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets: Figs. 1-4 and 7-9

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Figs. 1-4 and 7-9 are replaced pursuant to the attached drawing sheets, claims 2, 3, 17 and 18 are cancelled, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and the specification and claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 14-16 and 19 are amended. No new matter is added by any of these amendments. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-16 and 19-26 are pending in this application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 3, 6, 7, 14 and 15 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the allowable features of claims 2 and 3 and rewrite claims 6, 14 and 15 into independent form to recite the features of claim 1 and intervening claims. Applicants also amend claim 16 to incorporate the features of claims 17 and 18, as well as additional language to reflect the allowable subject matter of claim 3, as discussed further below.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. The Drawings Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to the drawings based on informalities. Figures 1-4 and 7-9 are replaced pursuant to the attached drawing sheets. In particular, these changes include the correction of cross-section hatching lines to be consistent with the materials described in the specification and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.84 and MPEP §608.02. These changes further include the addition of a “Related Art” legend for Fig. 7. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

II. The Specification Satisfies All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to the specification based on informalities. The specification is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

III. The Pending Claims Define Over the Applied References

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 8-12, 16-22 and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,532 to Kosugi et al. (“Kosugi”). The Office Action further rejects claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kosugi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,687,483 to Chen et al.; and claims 13 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kosugi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,436,709 to Sakaizawa et al. These rejections are moot with respect to claims 1, 2, 8-12, 25 and 26 as a result of incorporating the allowable features of claim 3 and intervening claim 2 into independent claim 1.

Additionally, Applicants submit that the claims 16 and 19-24 are allowable for the same reasons. The features of dependent process claim 18 substantially parallel the allowable features of dependent device claim 3, and the features of claims 17 and 18 are incorporated into claim 16, together with the cooling unit of claim 3 for maintaining the surface temperature. Thus, claims 16 and 19-24 also define allowable subject matter.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 4-16 and 19-26 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Gerhard W. Thielman
Registration No. 43,186

JAO:GWT/gwt

Attachments:

Amendment Transmittal
Replacement Drawing Sheets (Figs. 1-4 and 7-9)

Date: August 30, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--